GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1668
ANSWERED ON:29.11.2000
CYBER CRIMES
BRAHMANAND MANDAL;CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE;P.D. ELANGOVAN

Will the Minister of INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

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(a) whether the Government are aware of the cyber crimes and illegal cyber operations;

(b) if so, the corrective measures taken by the Government to avert the impending danger and the names of countries with whom the issue has been discussed for finance and defence in particular and the statistical details of the reported Cyber Crimes inthe country, State-wise;

(c) whether the Government have set up a C.B.I. Cell to keep an eye on Cyber Crimes;

(d) if so, the number of cases registered by the C.B.I. Cell so far;

(e) the action taken thereon;

(f) the steps taken by the Government to stop obscence and porno websites in India; (g) whether the Government have taken any steps for the improvement of internet and e-com facilities in the country; and (h) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

(SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN)

(a): Yes, Sir.

(b): Ministry of Information Technology has taken the following steps to reduce/control cyber crime in India.

(i) The Information Technology Act, 2000 has been enacted. This Act has adequate provisions to deal with cyber crime. Apart from that the Act, the rules notified thereof have detailed IT security guidelines.

(ii) Ministry of Information Technology is implementing a project to set up Centre for IT Security on the lines of Computer Emergency Response Teams (CERTs) in other countries to provide a single trusted point of contact for security related issues in IT systems, networks etc.

(iii) The project on Information Security Management (ISM), implemented by MIT, aims to bring in awareness, provide training and third party certification in the country.

(iv) MIT has also sponsored projects on development of technologies for Public Key Infrastructure and Payment Systems to address internet based transactions/Digital Signatures. These projects are in the advanced stage of completion.

The issue has been discussed in general terms with the Governments of Australia, Brazil, France and Singapore.
A few incidents involving computer crimes have been reported. The CBI has registered two cases, the details of which are given in (e).

(c): Yes, Sir. The Cyber CrimeInvestigation Cell ofCBI was notifiedin September 1999. It became functional from 03.03.2000 with the posting of a Superintendent of Police. The cell is at a nascent stage both in terms of infrastructure and trained manpower.

(d): Two

(e):

(i) Case No.RC S18 2000 E 0001 dt. 28.06.2000 under section 379, 419/420 IPC and

(ii) Case No. RC S18 2000 E 0002 dt. August 2000 under section 120B r/w, 292 IPC are under investigation.

(f): IT Act 2000 has provisions for dealing with publishing or transmitting obscene information in electronic form.

(g) & (h): Government has been a facilitator for the growth of internet and e-commerce in the country. Internet Service Provider

(ISP) Policy was announced by the Governmentin November 1988. A number of constraints have also since been removed by permitting international gateways to ISPs and direct access to undersea fiber opticcable under security clearance. Since then, 399 licenses have been issued in various categories. It has enabled competitive service provision by private sector.